



February 27, 2015

To: Executive Board

Subject: **Proposed FY 2015/2016 Business Plan Initiatives**

Recommendation

Approve the proposed FY 2015/2016 Business Plan Initiatives.

Analysis

Each year, Foothill Transit identifies initiatives that will direct the agency's activities and focus for the coming fiscal year. The following seven key projects are recommended for inclusion in the Business Plan:

- **Bus Replacement Project** – Updated specifications are being developed to begin the procurement process for the acquisition of new compressed natural gas (CNG) coaches. These new buses will be equipped with standardized passenger amenities that include high-back, reclining seats, individual overhead reading lights, and luggage racks, continuing the replacement of Foothill Transit's oldest CNG coaches. The new coaches will replace CNG buses that have met the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) minimum lifetime threshold of at least 500,000 miles or 12 years of service.
- **SMARTBus System (SBS) Replacement** – Procurement activities are currently underway to replace Foothill Transit's aging computer aided dispatch and automated vehicle location (CAD/AVL) system. The new system will include enhancements to better monitor on-street service in real time, while providing more accurate data for use by our customers for their daily travel and by agency staff for system planning and reporting purposes.
- **Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) Implementation** – Pending Board approval of the recommendations from staff and our COA consultant, staff will seek input from the public before presenting a final set of service improvement recommendations for Board approval. The goals of the project are to optimize current transit services, maximize underutilized resources, and expand the system in an efficient manner, where possible and necessary so that Foothill Transit can provide the most effective bus network for residents of the Pomona and San Gabriel Valleys.



- **Fare Restructuring Analysis** – As part of the Comprehensive Operational Analysis, Foothill Transit’s consultants are performing an analysis of our current fare structure and policy. Preliminary data suggests that the services of a consultant who specializes in fare restructuring will be needed in the coming year. The goals of the fare restructuring would be to simplify our current fare structure, ensure we are offering our customers the proper product mix at the proper price point, and provide seamless access across the valley for customers who ride other systems in addition to ours. The evaluation will also include recommendations to ensure Foothill Transit remains compliant with Transportation Development Act (TDA) requirements related to our minimum farebox recovery ratio and the addition of other criteria when considering future fare adjustments.
- **San Gabriel and Pomona Valley Park & Rides** – Development of Park & Ride facilities will continue to be a priority this year. The Azusa Intermodal Parking Facility – a four-level, 547-space parking facility – is currently under construction with completion targeted for December 2015. Staff continues to pursue other opportunities for Park & Rides in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.
- **College Pass Program** – Based on the successful pilot programs and the adoption of the Class Pass programs at Mt. SAC and University of La Verne, Foothill Transit will pursue Class Pass programs with other major colleges and universities throughout the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.
- **Mt. SAC Transit Center** – Following the success of the Class Pass at Mt. SAC, the development of a transit center on campus will be pursued. Mt. SAC is one of the largest trip generators in the entire Foothill Transit system and has very marginal bus stops. The development of an off-street transit center will be pursued. This center is anticipated to have six to ten transit bays with covered waiting areas for riders. Further, the inclusion of a Transit Store will be evaluated.

These are proposed agency-wide initiatives for FY 2015/2016. Individual department goals will be detailed in their respective sections within the preliminary FY 2015/2016 Business Plan.



Pending approval by the Foothill Transit Executive Board these proposed initiatives will serve as the foundation for agency planning prioritization in the coming year and will be included in the Proposed FY 2015/2016 Budget and Business Plan.

Sincerely,

Kevin McDonald
Deputy Executive Director

Doran J. Barnes
Executive Director